

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request favorable reconsideration of this application, as amended.

Regarding the certified copy of priority Japanese Patent Application No. 2003-160538, Applicants respectfully direct the Examiner's attention to the image file wrapper which shows a filing on June 15, 2004, in which Applicants submitted a certified copy of the priority document. Applicants note that the image file wrapper contains an "Artifact Sheet" indicating that the priority document has been retained in an artifact file. The Examiner is respectfully requested to order the artifact file if necessary to confirm the filing of the priority document.

Applicants have amended the title to overcome the objection.

Applicants respectfully traverse the objection to the drawings because Figs. 11-13 (and also Fig. 14) represent ideas that Applicants considered during the course of developing the present invention. Applicants have not characterized the subject matter of these figures as prior art, as it would be inappropriate to do so. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the objection to the drawings be withdrawn.

Turning to the claims, Claims 1-4, 6-8, 10, 12-14, 16, and 18 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kanatani in view of Sakaguchi; Claims 5, 11, 17, 19, 20, and 21 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kanatani and Sakaguchi, and further in view of Chang; and Claims 9 and 15 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kanatani and Sakaguchi, and further in view of Pappalardo. Without acceding to the rejections, Applicants have cancelled Claims 1-21 without prejudice or disclaimer and added new Claims 22-36, with Claims 22, 27, and 34 being independent.

New Claims 22-36 are patentable over the references of record.

For example, Claim 22 sets forth that display data is converted into first display data in the positive phase and into second display data in the negative phase using a converting circuit in response to a switching signal so that the first display data and the second display data are in the same bit pattern except for one specified bit when converting the display data.

Kanatani, the primary reference relied upon in the rejection of the now-cancelled independent claims, clearly

fails to teach or suggest the above-noted feature of Claim 22.

Sakaguchi, the secondary reference, discloses an output circuit 38 that includes operational amplifiers 381, 382, and that receives a standard voltage from a digital-to-analog ("D/A") converting circuit 37, wherein the operational amplifiers operate in accordance with a value of the most significant bit ("MSB") of display data received by the output circuit. *Id.*, col. 17, lines 8-22. More specifically, operational amplifier 382 is operated when the display data is one of the voltages separated into a lower voltage group (between 00H to 1FH), while operational amplifier 381 is operated when the display data is one of the voltages separated into a higher voltage group (between 20H to 3FH). *Id.*, Table 1; col. 17, lines 58-67.

Such teachings of Sakaguchi (including Table 1) merely disclose that the operation of the operational amplifiers is based on the MSB of the display data, but not that the display data is converted, as particularly recited in Claim 22.

Accordingly, Sakaguchi and Kanatani, whether taken individually or in combination, fail to teach or suggest the aforementioned features of independent Claim 22. Therefore,

Claim 22 (and its dependent claims) is allowable over the applied references.

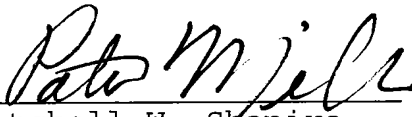
Independent Claims 27 and 34 have also been added, and recite, *inter alia*, a converting circuit which receives display data and is responsive to a switching signal that controls a switching of a positive phase and a negative phase, and which provides first data in the positive phase and second data in the negative phase so that the first data and the second data are in the same bit pattern except for one specified bit when converting the display data.

As will be appreciated from the above discussion of Claim 22, Sakaguchi and Kanatani fail to teach or suggest these features of Claims 27 and 34. Claims 27 and 34 (and their respective dependent claims) are therefore allowable over the applied references as well.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully solicit a Notice of Allowance.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge to Deposit Account No. 50-1165 (XA-10079) any fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 and 1.17 that may be required by this paper and to credit any overpayment to that Account. If any extension of time is required in connection with the filing of this paper and has not been separately requested, such extension is hereby requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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